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REMARKS

1. Claims 2, 3, 6-8, 10, 11, 14-18, and 22-83 are pending and stand rejected in the application. This communication amends claims 7, 10, 37, and 52.

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

2. Claims 7, 10, 37, and 52 stand objected to because the term "indictor" is misspelled. In response, the term has been amended to -- indicator --. Accordingly, withdrawal of this objection is respectfully urged.

3. Claims 2, 3, 8, 10, 11, 16-18, 22-34, and 53-65 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,675,755 to Trueblood. Claims 35, 38-50, 66, and 69-81 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Trueblood. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Independent claims 22, 38, 53 and 69 recite, inter alia, "a plurality of discrete screens spaced physically apart from one another...at least one of the screens being viewable through at least one of the other screens." Trueblood fails to expressly or inherently describe, teach or suggest this subject matter.

Instead, Trueblood merely describes a method and apparatus for simultaneously displaying multiple always-visible windows on a single display screen. For example, Trueblood teaches in column 6, lines 23-25:

"Typically, the window manager cause the server application to generate a user interface that allows a user to move windows about on the screen..."

Hence, Trueblood fails to expressly or inherently describe, teach or suggest the subject matter of independent claims 22, 38, 53 and 69. Accordingly, independent claims 22, 38, 53 and 69 are allowable over Trueblood.

Dependent claims 2, 3, 6-8, 10, 11, 14-18, 23-37, 39-52, 54-68 and 70-83, which recite additional features of the invention, are allowable over Trueblood for at least the same reasons as stated for independent claims 22, 38, 53 and 69.

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In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully urged.

4. Claims 6, 7, 14, 15, 36, 37, 51, 52, 67, 68, 82, and 83 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Trueblood in view of U.S. Patent 6,163,318 to Fukuda et al. (Fukuda). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 6, 7, 14, 15, 36, 37, 51, 52, 67, 68, 82, and 83 require, among other features, "a plurality of discrete screens spaced physically apart from one another...at least one of the screens being viewable through at least one of the other screens." As discussed above, Trueblood fails to expressly or inherently describe, teach or suggest this subject matter.

Fukuda does not cure the deficiencies of Trueblood, as Fukuda merely teaches a window system having a checking section for checking an overlapping state of a plurality of windows displayed on a display, a forming section for forming window graphs showing the positional relation of the windows when the windows are seen from another direction different from the overlapping direction, a detector for detecting an overlapped portion of the window graphs, and a changing section to change an attribute of the window graph to clarify the overlapped portion of the window graphs when such a portion is detected. The window corresponding to the instructed window graph can be selected or operated using a mouse cursor.

Hence, Trueblood in view of Fukuda does not teach or suggest the claimed "plurality of discrete screens spaced physically apart from one another...at least one of the screens being viewable through at least one of the other screens." For at least this reason, claims 6, 7, 14, 15, 36, 37, 51, 52, 67, 68, 82, and 83 are allowable over Trueblood in view of Fukuda.

In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully urged.

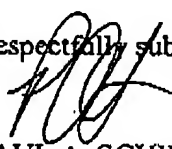
5. Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested as it is believed that all outstanding issues have been addressed herein and, further, that claims 2, 3, 6-8, 10, 11, 14-18, and 22-83 are in condition for allowance. Should there be any questions or matters whose resolution may be advanced by a telephone call, the examiner is cordially invited to contact applicants' undersigned attorney at his number listed below.

6. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the payment of the fees for the petition

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for the two (2) month extension of time and the RCE, and any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17, which are associated with this communication, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 04-1679.

Respectfully submitted,


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